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December 20, 1917,	Temperature 6 a.m.	59	3 p.m.	62
	Humidity	73		56

"SINGLE COPY 10 CENTS."

**DARING DAYLIGHT
ROBBERY.**

DISS BROS. STORE ENTERED.

Two Hundred Dollars Worth of Material Stolen.

We are getting pretty hardened, in Hongkong, to reading in the columns of the local Press of robberies of European tradesmen's shops but it would appear that we have yet much experience to gain before we can observe, with little molechance, details which embody exhibitions of such boldness on the part of the thieves as are contained in the account of yet another robbery, given below, which for brassin impertinence and daring, is, we think, hard to beat.

In broad daylight, yesterday robbers entered the shop of Messrs. Dias Brothers, in Des Voeux Road and got away with rolls of cloth to the extent of about \$200, and also Mr. Dias's coat, which was hanging over the chair in which he sits at his desk, and in the pockets of which were the keys of the front door of the shop, War Bond Tickets and other valuables. This was all done in broad daylight within the period of about a quarter of an hour.

It appears that at about mid-day, Mr. Dias had occasion to leave his shop for a few minutes the purpose of calling on the proprietor of the premises next door. He left two assistants in the shop and when he returned he found the articles missing. At the side of the shop, is a door leading out into the entrance of Alexandra Buildings and no doubt it was from this point that the robbers made their entry and exit. Immediately adjacent to this door there are shelves containing rolls of cloth and it was from here that the goods were stolen. On the other side of the door is the desk at which Mr. Dias sits and the chair, over the back of which his coat was hanging. The two assistants were, no doubt, at the back of the shop in the fitting room, and it is significant that the robbery occurred just at

At the time Mr. Dyer was absent and also at the time assistants were not in view, thereby proving that the premises must have been carefully watched. Even so, it is hard to believe that burglars would take such a risk. Their chances of being observed must have been so great, and the booty to be secured so small, considering the time, in which the desperadoes had in which to carry out their plot, that it leaves one at a loss to imagine what act they would not attempt. There is all the evidence, in this affair, of a gang of thieves working under the most careful and systematic programme and who will stop at nothing if there is the slightest chance of their activities being successful.

No arrests have been made so far.

POLICE RESERVE ORDERS

Orders issued by Mr. F. O.

Revolvr Course,
No Squads will be detailed for

New Issue of Uniform.
All ranks who have had com-

and for fresh issue of uniform and caps must forthwith attend at Tordin's shop for measurement.

Those who have been measured
are warned to attend for fitting.
Strength.

P.O. 561 Antonio is invalidated
at.

Professor and Mrs. Doby were passengers by the outgoing ship.

erle departed for the same

NOTICES.

THE CHINA LIGHT & POWER CO., LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the above company will be held at the registered office of the Company, George's Building, Chater Road, Victoria, Hongkong, on FRIDAY the 27th day of December, 1918, at 12 o'clock noon when the subjoined resolutions which were passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company held on the 16th day of December 1918 will be submitted for confirmation as Special Resolutions:—

(1) That it is desirable to reconstruct this Company, and accordingly that this Company be wound up voluntarily and that Hugh Frank Campbell of St. George's Building, Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, Merchant, be appointed Liquidator for the purpose of such winding up at a remuneration of one hundred dollars.

(2) That the General Managers of this Company, be authorised and requested to form and procure to be incorporated, a new Company to be called the "China Light & Power Company (1918) Ltd." (of which they shall be appointed by Agreement General Managers) with the object (inter alia) of acquiring the undertaking, business, goodwill, machinery, plant, book debts and all other assets whatsoever of this Company, and of carrying on business in or near Kowloon and/or elsewhere if thought desirable with Messrs. Shewan Tomes & Co Hongkong, and their successors in business as General Managers so long as the General Managers for the time being (if a corporation) or (if an unincorporated firm) any one or more partner or partners in the firm of the General Managers individually or collectively shall hold not less than one thousand shares of the Company.

(3) That the proposed Memorandum and Articles of such new Company submitted to this meeting be and the same are hereby approved and that the Liquidator be authorised to consent to the registration of such new Company with such Memorandum and Articles accordingly.

(4) That the draft Agreement submitted to this Meeting (marked "A," and expressed to be made between this Company and the Liquidator of the one part, and The China Light & Power Company (1918) Ltd. of the other part be approved; and that the Liquidator be authorised pursuant to Section 185 of the Companies Ordinance, 1911, to enter into an Agreement with such new Company (when incorporated) in the terms of the said draft and to carry the same into effect with such (if any) modifications either before or after the execution thereof as he, with the approval of the General Managers of the new Company thinks fit.

(5) That the Liquidator be authorised to obtain advances from the General Managers of any monies requisite upon such terms as he thinks fit.

Dated this 12th day of December 1918.

SHEWAN TOMES & CO.,
General Managers.

NOTICE

THE Offices and Stations of the Chinese Maritime Customs for Kowloon and District will be CLOSED on Public Business on the 23rd instant, being the Winter Solstice, on Christmas Day, and on the 2nd and 3rd January next, being the New Year Holiday.

T. D. MOUTRIEHEAD,
York Buildings,
Commission of Chinese Customs,
Hongkong, 16th December, 1918.

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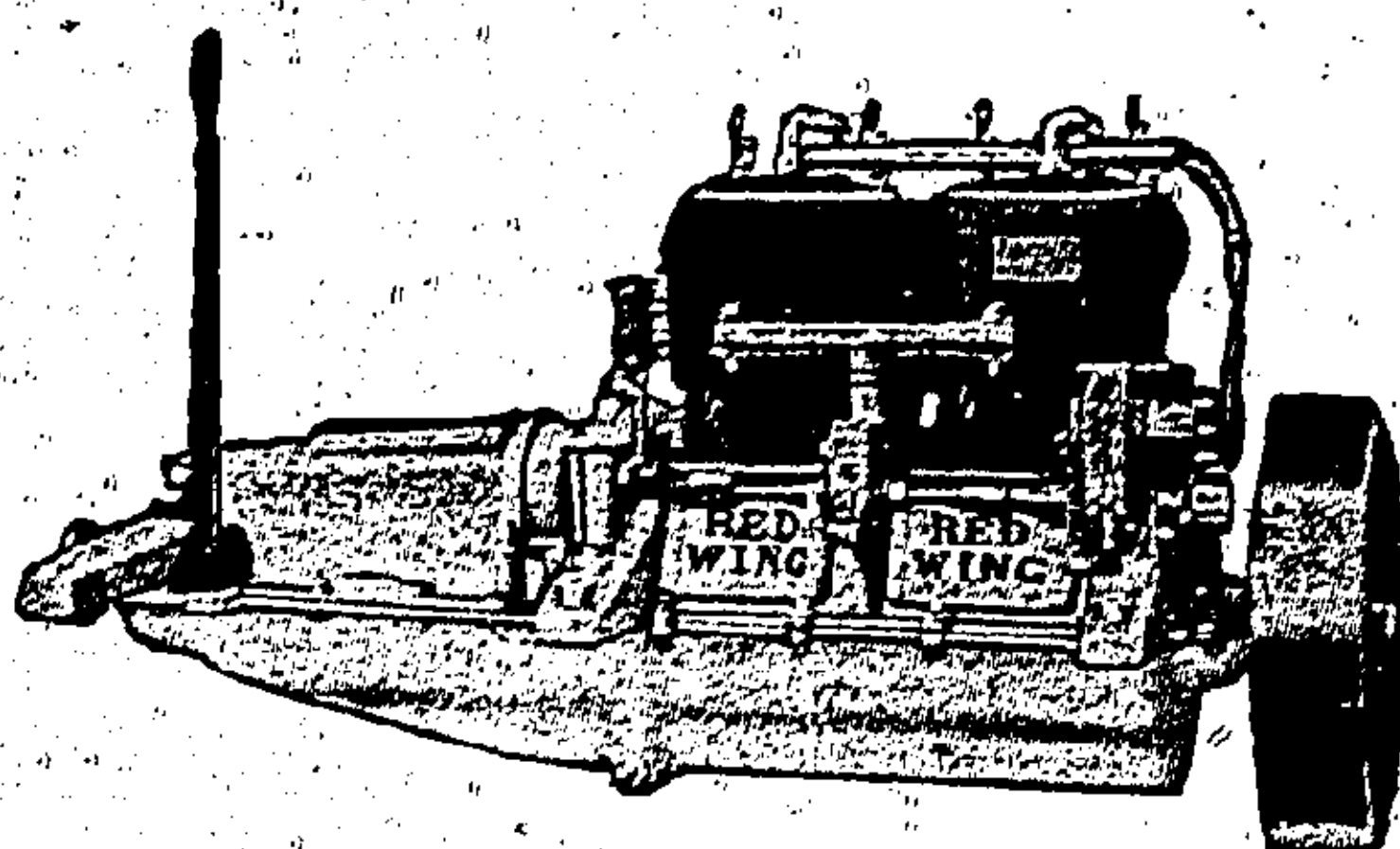
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G. F. R.

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All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916. Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G. P. O. and at all Police Stations.

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OWING to alterations and repairs at the Power Station the supply of electricity will be shut off on SUNDAY, the 22nd December from 7.15 A.M. to 1 P.M.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 18th December, 1918.

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HAVE JUST RECEIVED

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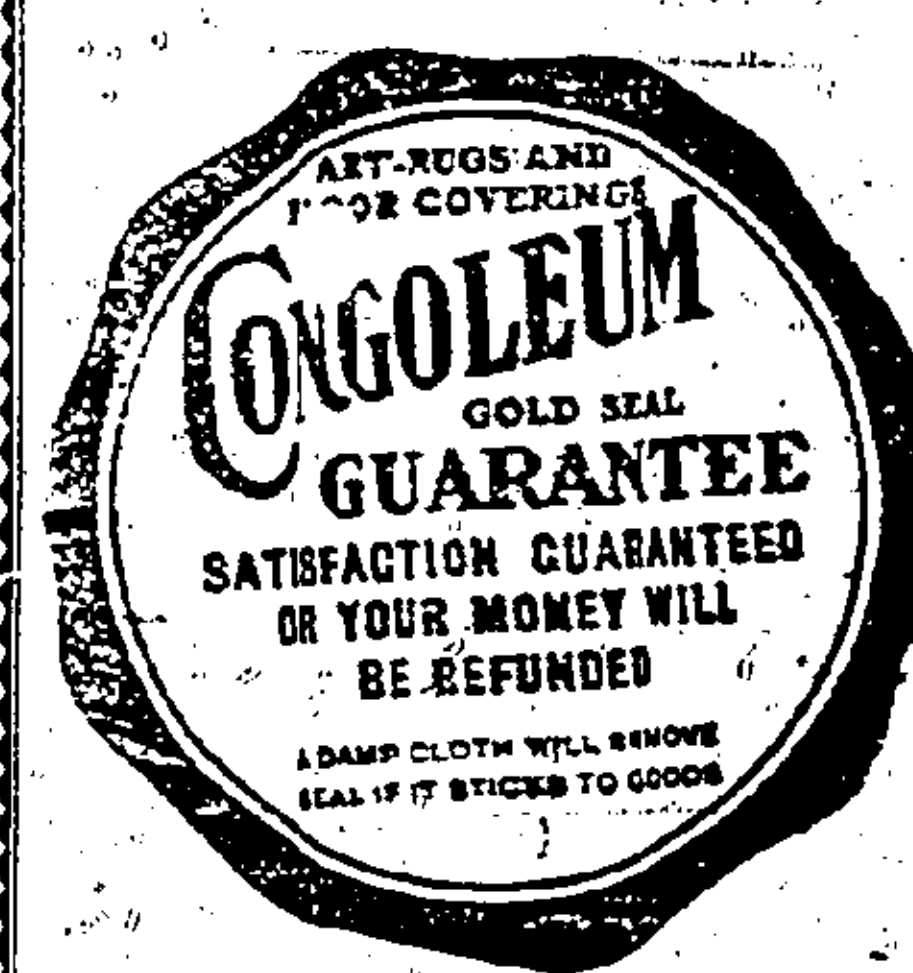
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All communications intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Business correspondents should be sent to the Manager.

Cable Address: Telegraph, Hongkong.

Telephone: No. 1 A.B.C., 5th edition. Western Union
Office address: 11, Lee House St.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1918.

THE CASE FOR REFORM.

We hail with the deepest satisfaction the announcement that the Constitutional Reform Association has decided to renew its campaign, suspended during the war, for a complete overhauling of Hongkong's electoral system. On January 9th, a public meeting under the auspices of the Association is to be held at the Theatre Royal for the purpose of representing to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, through the medium of the local Government, the aspirations of residents of the Colony in this connection. Yesterday we gave the text of the resolution which is to be proposed, and we think it will be generally conceded that it reflects a very reasonable, and, at the same time, necessary demand. Summed up in a few words, it requests the substitution of the elective for the nominative principle, the abolition of the Official Majority and the extension of the suffrage so as to include all who are either liable for jury service or being eligible, are for special reasons exempt therefrom. There is nothing in the least degree revolutionary in these demands; they are extremely mild in character when we think of the reforms which have recently been initiated at Home. But of all, they reflect a growing desire on the part of the public to have some share in the Colony's civic life.

The Legislative Council as at present constituted is merely an interesting relic of other days. It is utterly unsuited to the times in which we live. On the one hand, it presents the appearance, because of the Unofficial members serving on it, of being a body through which the public—the people who pay the taxes—can influence and control legislation. But because of the Official Vote, the Unofficials can always be forced into a position of utter impotence, no matter how strongly the public may feel on any question against which the Government has set its face. Apart altogether from the manner in which the Official Majority is used, the placing of such a power in the hands of men who are, after all, the servants of the public, is wrong in principle and altogether out of tune with modern representative ideals. Those who pay the piper have every right to call the tune. That, in a nutshell, is the case for the abolition of the iniquitous anachronism known as the Official Majority. Then we come to the method of appointment of the Unofficial members. At present, there are six of these, one being chosen by the Chamber of Commerce, one by the Justices of the Peace and the remaining four, including two Chinese, appointed by the Government. The proposal to be made at the forthcoming public meeting is that the number of Unofficials be increased to eight, the two Chinese still to be nominated, but the rest chosen by election—two by the Chamber of Commerce, one by the Justices of the Peace and the other three (to include one British subject of the Portuguese race) by the public. That, to our way of thinking, is a most admirable and well-thought-out scheme, and one which we feel certain will receive full support at the forthcoming public meeting. The nominative principle, like the Official Majority, has outlived its day. There is only one way of dealing with it—speedy abolition.

This is undoubtedly the appropriate moment in which to press for the constitutional reforms outlined above. Old institutions are going into the melting pot; a new and better order is arising. Here in Hongkong the people who are asking for the vote are not of the ignorant, revolutionary type. They are, on the whole, of a better and more enlightened class than the bulk of the electorate at Home. A big proportion of them are men of commerce who have helped to make, and are still building up, British influence and prestige in the East. They cannot justly be denied the privileges and the responsibilities which they now seek. When the meeting is held and the resolution passed, the community will expect the Government to transmit the demands without delay to the Imperial authorities. The Colony is serious on this question. It knows what it wants. It means to have it. The granting of popular status may be withheld for a time. Public sentiment must eventually come by its own.

A Contrast.
Among the spectators who witnessed the crossing of the Rhine by the British Army were many demobilized German soldiers, who were still in uniform. These men, in the space of a few days, had seen two armies cross the Rhine—our a defeated and the other a victorious army. What must have been their thoughts as they contrasted the two? It is reported that they could not withhold their admiration of the splendid condition of our men and horses, for they must have been a striking contrast to those who crossed the Rhine a few days before. It was in fact a picture of victory and defeat. On the one hand we have the defeated German masses, emaciated and ragged, and half-starved, covered with shame and ignominy, on the other we see the magnificent spectacle of our victorious army proudly advancing into a conquered country, with bands playing and flags flying. Nothing could exemplify more the utter humiliation of Germany and the overwhelming victory of the Allies. The passage of the Rhine is in truth a striking picture of conqueror and vanquished.

The Shamesen Germans.
There has been so much of an irresponsible character written and said in regard to the British treatment of the Germans on Shamesen that the facts which we published yesterday, from official sources, will possibly come as somewhat of a surprise to many who read our special account of what has actually transpired. In point of fact, the British authorities at Canton have shown a measure of tolerance and forbearance towards the Huns there which they have never deserved but have even abused by passing objectionable remarks while enjoying their freedom and in other ways as well. If we try to imagine what the situation would have been were the Shamesen a German Concession, we shall get some idea of the liberal and generous treatment which was accorded these sons of the Fatherland. For all too long were they given their freedom; and in view of their own behaviour and their connection with a nation which, as Mr. Jamieson rightly says, places them in the category of moral lepers; it says much for British restraint that they were so little interfered with. What they merited was prompt internment when war broke out; the eventual expulsion ordered on the side of leniency. To-day many of them are still at large in Chinese territory near by. If China had a grain of sense she would see that they were speedily placed under restraint. A German is a dangerous customer anywhere; he is especially so in China.

Keep the Germans Out.
It is evident that the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States are in dead earnest on the question of the exclusion of Germans. It will have been seen from our issue of Wednesday that the Federal Council at Kuala Lumpur has adopted a resolution much on the same lines as that passed by two successive public meetings in Hongkong and that the Straits Merchant Service Guild has gone even further, even to the extent of urging that any person or firm anywhere east of Suez employing or having dealings with enemy subjects should be black-listed for a term of years. Since then, a public meeting at Singapore has also expressed itself in favour of exclusion. Now undoubtedly it is the time for us to speak our minds on this subject with no ambiguity, at the same time taking pains to see that the views expressed reach those who will sit at the Peace Conference table. It is to be noticed that the F.M.S. Council, officials and unofficials alike, were unanimous in passing the resolution. That is a good lead for Hongkong to follow. The public here has spoken with no uncertain voice on the issue; it is now time the Legislative Council endorsed the Colony's opinion. We went matters so arranged that no Germans shall return to Hongkong; at least for a specified period and then only under conditions which enable us to know what they are doing. Let the voice of Hongkong, official and otherwise, be heard, and let our motto be "No Germans wanted here!"

DAY BY DAY.

PRIDE UNDESERVED IS SCANDAL IN DISGUISE.

To-morrow's Anniversary.
To-morrow is the third anniversary of the appointment of General Sir William Robertson as Chief of the Imperial General Staff.

The Dollar.
The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was \$4.43/16d.

The Health Return.
Yesterday there was one fatal case of diphtheria notified, the victim being a Chinese.

Unpaid Rates.
Six Chinese were summoned for amounts ranging from \$27 to \$100, for rates, by Mr. Leo Longinotto, on behalf of the Colonial Treasurer, in the Summary Court, this morning.

The Wrong Term.
Under the heading of "Strength" in to-day's Police Reserve orders it is recorded that P.O.—is invalided out. "Weakness" would have been a better heading.

A New Building.
The Sun Company, Limited, Universal Providers, are putting up a building of vast proportions, on the river front, at Canton. This huge structure, when completed, will consist of several storeys and will dwarf some of the surrounding buildings, some of which are of no mean size.

Children's Party.
The Hon. Mr. P. H. and Mrs. Holyoak gave a Children's Party in the Hongkong Hotel yesterday afternoon. About 250 children and their friends were present, including H. E. the Officer Administering the Government and Major General Ventris. Mr. R. Sutherland gave a Punch and Judy Show and there was also a cinema performance.

For British Sailors in Canton.
The authorities of the British Concession on Shamesen have very thoughtfully erected a Naval Canteen, for the use of British sailors, on the Bund. Although the Canteen is only a makeshift erection, it has been very nicely fitted up with billiard table, piano, library and bar, and is greatly appreciated by the men for whose use it is provided.

To-morrow's Pictorial Supplement.

Our pictorial supplement to be given away with to-morrow's issue will be found of a most interesting character. The pictures will include a sketch of the proposed new Repulse Bay Hotel; a photograph of "Seven and Sixpenny Hill," Hongkong, in connection with which we have arranged a competition, particulars of which will be given to-morrow; and a group of the Allied Ministers at Peking taken on Armistice Day; as well as other illustrations of local and general interest.

Billiards.
In the second round of the Palace Hotel Handicap last night, a good game was witnessed between Capt. E. B. Green (oves 250) and Mr. C. E. Vas (oves 100). Capt. Green, who is one of the best men we have in the Colony, had so far the best break (61) but he could not get going until the latter part of the game, but Vas played a very consistent game throughout. After Vas had got to (130), Green came away with breaks of 30, 28, 24 (twice) and 21, just passing Vas and winning by 12 points. The scores were:—Green, 250; Vas, 233. Vas had the highest break of 35. To-night W.G. Gerrard meets E. Gumaras at 9 p.m.

Beautifying the Shamesen.
A wonderful change has come over the British Concession, on Shamesen, during the past twelve months, in connection with beautifying the Bund. New paths have been made and the Public Gardens, tennis courts, and other open spaces exhibit the results of assiduous and careful attention for the welfare of the public. There are many beautiful flowering plants and the grassed areas are splendidly kept and present an appearance which is extremely pleasing to the eye. We understand that a good deal of this improvement is due to the untiring work of Mr. William Farmer, as Head of the Public Works Department, to whom all praise is due.

ROBBIE'S LETTERS: XVI.

To His Nephew in an English Hospital.

Hongkong, 19th Dec., 1918.

Dear Alick,
.....but as I told Macpherson you can't judge a picture according to the Marquis of Queensberry's Rules, and so him and me nearly fell out about it. But your Sketching Club got up a fine show all the same. I'd rather have enjoyed the pictures by myself but of course Mac would have to go with me and I'm no sayin', mind ye, but what he'd perfect right if he felt that way inclined. But to pose as an artist just because he happens to have a wheel oil painting himself that he got painted in Wyndham Street years ago, just fair riled me. You know the kind of pictures Macpherson has—masterpieces a la Pears's Christmas Annual with the technique of a Hongkong bred artist—"The Captain of the Team," "Cherry Ripe," "Saving the Guns at Colenso," no to speak of Lord Kitchener done in twelve colours and a variety. Every time I see them together with Mr. Macpherson's red curtains and pea green carpet, for trimmings so to speak, I have the same feelings that an insect must have that has got itself tied up in a mixed salad. But all the same I'll no go the length of sayin' that Mac's no qualified to be a judge mind ye—no it's just his air of finality that vexes me.

Says he, giving hard at a picture of sunset that looked like an ill-treated poached egg. "There's technique for you," says he. "Well," says I, "I don't know much about that sort of thing myself but I've long ago come to the conclusion that technique's a thing that an artist strives all his life for and when he finally gets it, nobody understands it." But Mac he's just sneered. "Look here," says he, "There's no use talking like that. Unless you've tried this sort of thing yourself, you're no qualified to criticize." "Maybe no," says I, "by the same token I'm no qualified to lay an egg, but by heck, I know a bad one when I come across it."

That put a stopper on him for a bit. But it was no a bad show for all that. A Mrs. Macpherson there had some fair tidy work, though Mrs. Ram had her best when it came to drawing. Mind ye painting and drawing doesn't always mean the same thing. It's easy to get a sheet of grey paper and plaster a few broad washes on it and call it a picture. As I said at the time, it's a blessing that Hongkong's got so many hills—they fill up a picture fine and if ye do them in indigo blue wi' a touch o' boot polish on your palette and then dab a wheel yellow spots, like marigolds, on them—you've got Hongkong by night off to a tee. Talk about the "Lights of London," it's no in it wi' the "Lights of Hongkong." If I was giving any cheap advice away it would be this: If you're going to sketch, sketch out o' doors, paint what you see and then leave it alone. The result might not be very bonnie the first time or two, but even then the effect would be more real than if you look your sketch home and started to touch and work it up by lamplight. Nature is hard to improve, mind, I'm telling ye. Aye, demobilisation will be a big undertaking. Before we got you Jocks into your trousers again and the womenfolks back into their petticoats and taking an interest in the possible width of skirt six months ahead, we'll no want for excitement. You've seen for yourself the changes this war has made in women's work. They're important folk nowadays; even one of our Professors here the other day left off teaching the Celestial mind for a bit to write and read an essay on this very subject. There was no many folk at the meeting but that didn't matter much anyway so long as it got three or four columns in the papers—there's no many telegrams nowadays anyway. Aye, lad, the womenfolks at home have been splendid and yet I wonder—I wonder—I'm old-fashioned enough to think that the Miss in overall, in uniform and in politics will come as a

hit of a shock to the average soldier lad when he gets home. It'll be alright so long as there is plenty of work to go round and wages are good, but it'll be an uneasy dog fight if the sexes fall out with each other. Mind ye I'm a firm believer in giving a woman a man's wage if she does a man's work, but after this she enters the labour market in real earnest and without the spur o' patriotism and inflated wages to egg her on. She of the gentle clinging hands and tremulous mouth, yielding and feminine, may pass away but—I don't know. We shall see. Of one thing though I'm firmly convinced, and that is, that when the womenfolks are better paid, it'll be a better world—for them. Before the war, working girls found, to their cost, that virtue had its own reward—usually about ten shillings a week!

Christmas will soon be here again, lad, and Janet has been wondering ever since you've been in hospital whether you'll get the haggie she sent you, safe enough. I put my foot in it the other night (no the haggie) when I remarked that we never did lose the things that didn't matter much. It's the same wi' dogs. Macpherson there can keep a mongrel dog for years—nobody wants it—but if I get a pup I've eye noticed that in ratio to the length of its pedigree no is the length of time he's under our roof. But I hope all the same that Janet's haggie is not going the rounds in France for all that, but if it does go astray I only hope that it's an R.A.M.C. chap that gets it—he'll be the most likely to know how to doctor himself afterwards.....

Well Janet's fair been worrying me for a scooter this year but I keep on telling her that Santa Claus is maybe too old-fashioned to think about they new-fangled things. Janet keeps on looking very solemn the while, but I can see by the glint in her eye that Janet is going to get that scooter in the long run. Jimmie, he wants a drum—and likely to get it too after a promise to Janet not to disturb Granddad. Jimmie's idea o' keeping that promise will be to whang it most when I'm having a nap. Last year he operated on the sister's mouth wi' a glove stretcher wi' disastrous results to himself.....

As I've often said before, Alick, what's the use of being ignorant if you don't show it? Macpherson drew my attention to a secret that appeared in the Police Gazette's Magazine in which the writer was ignorant enough to mention my name three times without first sending me a proof for correction. He might have known that it's no permissible in Hongkong now days for to have anything printed in the newspapers that hasn't been first made public property. Besides, if you man's no careful he'll be had up for libel. I was half inclined to write him a lawyer's letter myself and make him apologise in the next issue of the Gazette—but no, mind ye, before he'd sent me a proof pull of his withdrawal beforehand, that being the usual procedure I am informed in these days of a free and enlightened Press. But on second thoughts I've made up my mind to treat him wi' silent contempt. The more you stand on dirt the broader it turns, so I think the best way is to say no more about it. No that I'm feared—by heck no. But I'd like to inform him that I've had some education myself—no no leaving school till I was twelve years old. But putting that to one side, I'm educated enough to know that no matter how a body speaks—he has to write in plain English—no that English folks will have a chance to understand what he's driving at. Besides as I've said before my name's no Bobbie and as for writing poetry I hope I'll never be so intellectually bankrupt or have so much spare time on my hand as to descend to writing your kind o' senseless doggerel. Besides "equus" diems rhyme wi' "floor" in Scotland anyway. The only time a Scotman could make a sound like that would be when he had a hot gob in his mouth. As I said before, I'm not going to take any notice of the scurrilous article, but what I can, then he's the first I've heard of something in Gaelic that'll leave him paralysed and speechless for a month.

Your truly,
ROBBIE McWHIRTER.

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

Americans are not notoriously royalist in sentiment, but King George has "won through" their rooted prejudice. They vote him a "regular feller"—which, it would seem, is one of their ways of announcing that one is a good sort. An American paper accounts enthusiastically of the manner the King ate backwash cakes, with the Queen, at the American canteen in London. "George and Mary are ordinary visitors, come to disturb no one, to mingle with all, to be friendly. No distinction for them; and, above all, no ceremony. They want to eat an American dish, and sit down with the boys at one of the big tables covered with oldcloth. 'Backwash cake' is the best thing we have," says the host, a little flustered by the visit. And backwash cake it was, with New England maple-syrup. George and Mary clear their plates with gusto, vote the unfamiliar griddle cakes delicious, and then go the round of kitchens and dormitories, departing like people who had had a good time.

Few towns of its size have produced a greater number of distinguished men than Valenciennes and few of its age are more disappointing. One may forgive much to the birthplace of Froissart and the brothers Watteau, but even so one is forced to admit the justice of Victor Hugo's pronouncement that it was "hardly say better than Cambrai," which, to him, was "a prodigy of boredom." The thing most stimulating to the imagination in Valenciennes is, or at any rate was, an 18th-century poorhouse of enormous proportions. The cost of building it was met by a temporary tax of a farthing on every pot of beer drunk in that neighbouring district of Hainaut, whose inhabitants clearly had a wondrous thirst for well-doing.

The Doctor in charge of an Indian hospital in France was an Indian, and one day a great personage of the military medical world came to inspect the hospital. After going round the General asked: "And how many natives do you say you accommodate?" "Oh!" was the reply "the hospital for the natives is over there," pointing to a French establishment; "this, Sir, is for His Majesty's Indian soldiers." The Indian doctor knew the proper meaning of the word natives. There is no opprobrium attached to it, for everyone is a native of somewhere or other.

Hermann von Wissmann the first to cross Africa from the West to East, and became the first Governor of German East Africa. When he last attended a Congress in London he was asked by Mr. T. L. Gilmour, "How are you getting on with your colonies and colonisation?" He threw up his hands in a way that was almost more Latin than German, and said: "I have washed my hands of the whole business." "Why?" asked his amazed interlocutor. "Because we Germans do not know how to colonise, and we are not willing to learn."

"Pidgin."
We are beginning to get out new cables in pidgin English now. A wire to-day read: "Silver very quiet."

I never believed in the "What's like us" sort of thing, for we all know that Bannockburn was an outcrop of fair and a bit Hunnish at that, and that we got our locks properly at Flodden and that Scots folk enbust on Haggis and porridge and that they got to wear kilts because their feet are too big to get into their trousers. We knew all that years ago and we try to bear up as best we can in the circumstance but it's no nice to be reminded about it in public print about it, but if you Englishmen can speak the English language better than the average Scotsman can, then he's the first I've heard of something in Gaelic that'll leave him paralysed and speechless for a month.

YEE SANG FAT CO.

A GRAND DISPLAY

OF
CHRISTMAS
GIFTSFANCY HANDKERCHIEFS,
TIE SETS & TOILET SETS.

PACKED WITH FANCY BOX.

CHRISTMAS CARDS
IN BEAUTIFUL DESIGNS.

YEE SANG FAT CO.

34, Queen's Road Central.

REMEMBER
TEL. NO. 977
FOR

MERCURY GARAGE

THE MOST
MODERN
CARS IN
TOWN.COLUMBIA
CHRISTMAS
RECORDS FOR CHILDREN

- 7524 Johnny Chuck finds the best thing in the World
The Joy of the Beautiful
A 1295 Children's Toy March
Synphony Orchestra.
A 1227 Christmas Symphony
Clicca-sian Dance
A 1605 That Raggedy Man
A Visit from St. Nicholas

THE ANDERSON MUSIC CO., LTD.
16, DES VCEUX ROAD. TEL. 1322.

TO-DAY'S NEW ADVERTISEMENT.

LIBERTY MALT BEVERAGE

San Miguel's Special Brew. Guaranteed to be non-alcoholic but tastes
and looks like Beer. It Creates an Appetite, and Excites Good
Digestion. Recommended for Children, Women, and the aged.

WHOLESALE OR RETAIL.

VICENTE ATIENZA.

18 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

Tel. K155.

Hops Deferred Maketh the
Heart Sick.

"Any money found on him?"
was the question put frequently
by Mr. J. R. Wood this morning
to the Sergeants who prosecute
unlicensed hawkers and washmen.
felt that Mr. Wood would have
upon the Poor Box for any doing
and secure these men.
licenced. One hawker of a

able had five cents at the time
of the arrest. He said he was
carrying the vegetables and not
hawking. He was given an
opportunity to bring his friend
to refute the Police story. The
cost were fixed came ranging from
\$3 to \$5. We were hoping that
the Police and the Magistrates
could take lenient view of these
cases. One delay maketh the
heart sick.

GUARD THE BABY
AGAINST COLDS.

To guard the baby or young
child against colds nothing can
equal Baby's Own Tablets, the
Canadian children's remedy.
These Tablets are a mild laxative
which will keep the little ones
stomach and bowels working
regularly. It is a recognised fact
that when the stomach and bowels
are in good order colds will not
exist; that the health of the little
one will be good, and that he will
thrive and be happy.

Baby's Own Tablets also cure
vomiting, feverishness, indiges-
tion, and expel worms. They
make teething easy; are guaran-
teed to be free from opiates and
perfectly harmless.

Sold by chemists, or by mail at
60 cents the vial from the Dr.
Williams' Medicine Co., 98
Szechuen Road, Shanghai.

DAY BY DAY.

Bad Memories in Police.
One of the qualifications
required of a constable is that
he should have a good memory.
Diaries are meant to freshen his
mind after a lapse of months.
A constable who cannot recall
accurately, without the aid of his
diary, what happened the previous
night is hardly in his right
calling. To refer to his diary
when giving evidence before the
Magistrate is unfair to the
defendant, and when one Chinese
constable tried to draw his
inspiration from his pocket-book,
Mr. Wood to-day vehemently
demanded him to put it down.

Writing Competition.
Among the names of the
successful competitors from the
Colonies in the 1917-1918 Van
Foster Writing Competition held
by Messrs Blackie and Son,
publishers, appears the name of
Wong Wing-long, a pupil of the
Saiyungpan Government School.
His writing, which was exhibited
at the School prize distribution in
February last, was very much
admired by those who saw it.

Christmas Tea.
The ladies associated with the
Wesleyan Church are giving a
Christmas tea in the Sailors' Home
to-morrow at 6 p.m. Afterwards
there will be a social evening.

HONGKONG HOTEL.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW
YEAR 1918.DINNER DANCES will be
held on the following nights
during CHRISTMAS WEEK:-CHRISTMAS EVE, TUESDAY
24th December.CHRISTMAS NIGHT, WED-
NESDAY 25th December.BOXING NIGHT, THURSDAY
26th December.SATURDAY 28th December,
NEW YEAR'S EVE, TUESDAY
31st December.

Special table d'hôte. Menus
will be provided in the GRILL
ROOM at \$3.50 per head, and in
the MAIN DINING ROOMS at
\$2.50 per head.

Patrons are advised to book
early as accommodation is
limited. All tables previously
engaged and not cancelled by
mid-day on the day to which
such reservation applies will be
charged for whether occupied or
not.

Bookings at the HOTEL
MAIN OFFICE.J. H. TAGGART,
Manager.TO-DAY'S
ADVERTISEMENT.KING EDWARD HOTEL.
CHRISTMAS NIGHT.

SPECIAL DINNER with
Music and DANCING \$2.50
each including light refresh-
ments. Dancing to commence
at 9.15 P.M.

Intending guests, please book
tables early. Limited number.
J. WITCHELL,
Manager.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1918.

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

CHRISTMAS ORDERS
FOR
OWN FED TURKEYSshould be booked with us early to
avoid disappointment.Birds supplied alive or killed and
dressed as required.

GERIN, DREVARD & CO.

ST. GEORGE'S BUILDING Tel. 114.

AND AT CANTON.

IMPORTERS & EXPORTERS
MACHINERY MERCHANTSSTEEL BARS, STEEL ANGLES, BOILER PLATES, ETC.
"FRISCO STANDARD" MARINE ENGINES, "COPPER
QUEEN" BELTING, "SKOOKUM" BELTING, ELECTRIC
MOTORS, GENERATORS AND OTHER
ELECTRICAL APPARATUS.

JAMES STEER.

9, ICE HOUSE STREET.
WATCHMAKER AND JEWELLER.CHRONOMETERS, CLOCKS, WATCHES AND NAUTICAL
INSTRUMENTS REPAIRED UNDER MY
PERSONAL SUPERVISION.

Tel. 2877.

Tel. 2877.

SINGON & CO.

IRON & STEEL PRODUCTS

BEST TERMS. COMPLETE STOCKS.

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Established 1880.



CHRISTMAS 1918

J. ULLMANN & CO.

The Leading French Jewellery House

WATCHES

JEWELLERY

DIAMONDS

Splendid assortment of
A New Consignment of
CUT-GLASS SILVERWARE
SOMETHING TO SUIT EVERYBODY.

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INC. IN U.S.A.

York Buildings, Hongkong.

EXCLUSIVE AGENTS FOR THE
WYOMING SHOVEL WORKS.

WYOMING, Pa. U.S.A.

MANUFACTURERS OF SHOVELS, SCOOPS AND SPADES.

THE ALEXANDRA CAFE.

FOR

CHRISTMAS CAKES, PLUM PUDDINGS, MINCE PIES.
DELICIOUS CHOCOLATES, CRACKERS, ETC.FOR TIPPINGS AND DINNERS THE ALEXANDRA CAFE
IS UNSURPASSED.ORDERS FOR CATERING OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS
EFFICIENTLY CARRIED OUT.

Useful Gifts for Men

Gifts such as these reflect the good taste and thoughtful
consideration of the giver. No man can fail to appreciate
a gift selected from the suggestions offered below.

MUFFLERS.....	DRESSING GOWNS...	GOLF ROSE...
GLOVES.....	BATH ROBES.....	SWEATERS...
TIES.....	COMFY SLIPPERS...	BELTS.....
WAISTCOATS...	HANDKERCHIEFS...	SCARVES.....

Let us assist you in the selection of your Gifts.

MACKINTOSH

& CO., LTD.

Men's Wear Specialists,

16, DES VCEUX ROAD.

Telephone 29.

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TELEPHONE 348

XMAS PRESENTS

FOR GENTLEMEN.

We have many smart novelties
on show including:-

TIES	WALKING STICKS
GLOVES	UMBRELLAS
SWEATERS	HAND-BAGS
SILK & WOOL SCARVES	FITTED SUIT CASES
HANDKERCHIEFS	DRESSING GOWNS
FANCY WAISTCOATS	SLIPPERS ETC.

INSPECTION INVITED.

"For the convenience of our customers, our Store will
be open on Saturday afternoon the 21st inst."

CABARET DANCING.

IN THE MURRAY PARADE GROUND

By kind permission of the Military Authorities and
by courtesy of the Committee of St. Andrew's Society.

ON SATURDAY, 21ST DECEMBER, AT 9.00 P.M.

Popular Prices:-Ladies \$2.00. Gents \$3.00.

PAYABLE AT THE GATE.

Extra Peak Trams.

12.20 and 12.30 a.m.

Late Kowloon Ferries will also run.

Band of the 18th Infantry

By kind permission of MAJOR MORGAN and Officers

Light Refreshments including liquors supplied by Cafe

Wiseman.

NETT PROFIT TO WAR CHARITIES.

XMAS HAMPERS

We beg to notify Customers that Assorted Hampers
suitable for the festive season may be obtained from us
at the following reduced rates.

No. 1 Hamper.

- 1 Qt. Moët & Chandon Champagne "Dry Imperial"
- 1 "Blackberry Brandy"
- 1 Ft. D.O.M.
- 1 Qt. Martell's XXX Brandy
- 2 "King George IV White Label Whisky or
Perfection
- 1 "Superb Tawny Port
- 2 "St. Julien Claret
- 1 "Old Brown Sherry Red Seal
- 1 "Gin, D.C.L. Old Tom or Dry
- 1 "Burgoyne's Burgundy
- 1 phial Pomeranzan Bitters

No. 2 Hamper.

- 1 Qt. Victor Clicquot Champagne
- 1 Ft. D.O.M.
- 1 Qt. Burgoyne's Burgundy
- 1 "Martell's XXX Brandy
- 2 "King George IV W.L. or Perfection Whisky
- 2 "Tawny Dry Port
- 2 "St. Julien Claret
- 1 "Gin, D.C.L. Old Tom or Dry
- 1 "Vino de Pasto Cherry Y.S.
- 1 phial Pomeranzan Bitters

No. 3 Hamper.

- 1 Qt. Burgoyne's Burgundy
- 1 Ft. G.F. Penfmark
- 1 Ft. D.O.M.
- 2 Qts. Superior Rich Old Port
- 2 "King George's IV W.L. or Perfection Whisky
- 1 "20 year Old Brandy
- 1 "J. Martell & Co. Cherry Y.S.
- 2 "Medecine Laret
- 1 "Gin D.O.L. Old Tom or Dry
- 1 phial Pomeranzan Bitters

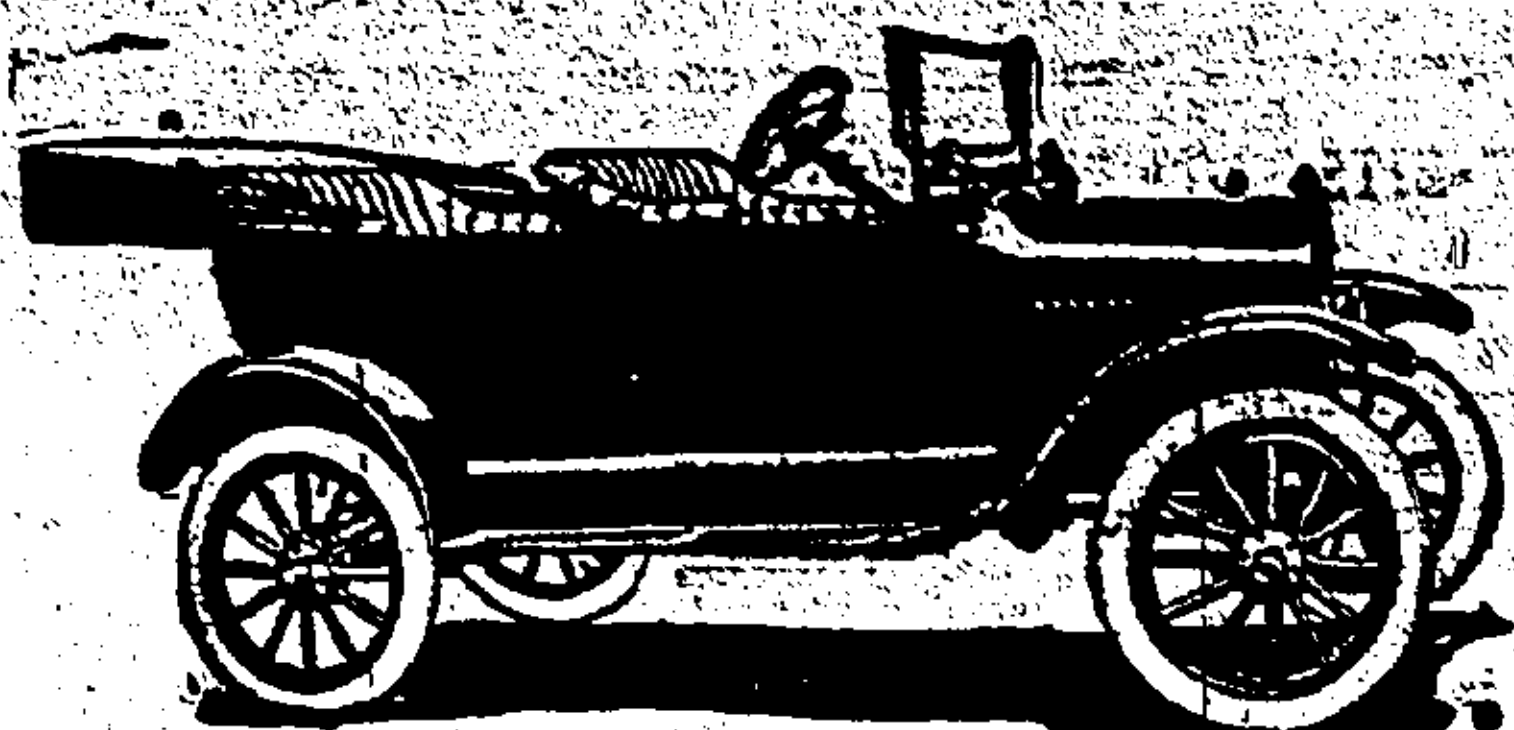
Hampers of all descriptions made up to suit customers requirements.

CANDE, PRICE & CO., LTD.

Tel. No 135. 6, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong



\$1,250 (Local Currency) complete with
Electric Lights and Electric Horn.
ALEX. ROSS & CO.
Sole Agents for the Canadian Ford.



ECONOMY.

The Ford is essentially a strong, light car, being built of Vanadium steel, the lightest and strongest steel made. Weight is the most expensive thing in a motor car. Every additional pound increases the demand on the motor, makes necessary more gasoline and oil, and results in greater wear on tyres.

IN LIGHTER VEIN.

The Humour of the Police Courts.

Goodness alone knows what our Chinese lower-class citizens think of Hongkong's legal machinery. In many instances they must think our law-dispensers crazy. At least, one Chinese woman will form this estimate for she was fined this morning \$3 for cutting 60 cabbies of grass valued at \$1.40 which was growing on a Government plantation. Nothing is free, gentlemen, in a British possession. Everything has a value, even grass on the roadside. So don't feel shocked when you are hauled up the next time for inhaling more than your average amount of oxygen!

Nice Unexploited Field for Hawkers.

No money to buy a licence is an excuse that does not hold water in the Police Courts. The trying Magistrate's reply is invariably: "You can buy rest at the Victoria Hotel." One man who was found hawking near the Wanchai market was fined \$3—about the value of the licence. He had \$1.33 on his person. These Chinese who have no means at their disposal are so dense-headed. They will insist on entering a profession that demands an entrance fee. There is such a big field in Hongkong.

A Menace To Our Lives.

A menace to the lives of the citizens of Colony is the number of dangerous buildings. We are of opinion that there are many old structures here that require the inspection of the Building authorities. We therefore, rejoiced to see that one landlord was called upon to face the music of Mr. J. R. Wood's Court for failing to comply with the request of the P.W.D. The case is a very interesting and is an illustration of how a Chinese landlord can fool the Building authorities. The landlord of 170, Wellington Street was charged with failing to pull down the fourth and fifth stories of this building, as ordered by the P.W.D. Mr. A. E. Wright, executive engineer of the Public Works Department, who appeared to prosecute, said the position was that he served a notice on the landlord condemning the building as dangerous and ordering him to pull down the fourth and fifth stories. Nothing had been done since although letters and reminders were frequently sent. The notice was served on August 9th, and the landlord was given fourteen days to carry the order out. The building was not immediately dangerous. He was afraid of a typhoon, earthquake or rain.

The building had not been shored. It was originally a three-story one. A story was built a few years ago and another one added after that. The plan of the original building showed the retaining walls as 14 inches. The new walls were 14 inches. On examination it was found that the original walls were 9 inches and therefore the building would be top heavy.

Mr. Goldring, who appeared for the defendant, said he thought it was only a three-story building, and not five. He wished to get Mr. Rosser and other experts to examine the building. He noticed that he was charged as well under the drainage laws. Mr. Wright said the drainage by-laws had nothing to do with the building authorities. Mr. Goldring said his summons mentioned Section 221 of the Building Ordinance. The Magistrate said it should read section 220. Mr. Goldring said he was worrying about weep-holes (laughter). Mr. Wright said he did not see what was building experts would be to Mr. Goldring. The P.W.D. had condemned the building and there was no evidence required on the point. A formal adjournment till Saturday was granted.

Law Advertiser Wanted.

The average Chinese, it has been often contended, does not know the law, so when this morning Mr. M. R. Lo told Mr. J. R. Wood this, he was merely postulating a truth. The Hon. Li-shop of Jewellers 14, Circular Pathway, was prosecuted at the instance of the Police for being in possession of dangerous goods, i.e., four gallons of sulphuric acid, nitric acid without a licence and also for selling same.

Mr. M. R. Lo, in pleading guilty on both summonses, said he was instructed to lay certain facts in mitigation of the offence. The firm was established two years ago and he understood that all Hongkong goldsmiths had been in the habit of using sulphuric acid for the purpose of their business every day. Neither his client nor any goldsmith, he ventured to think, thought it necessary to get a licence. The shop used to buy a certain quantity monthly or periodically and since the sellers had a licence his goldsmith client did not think he was to procure one. He had to use two or three lbs. every day and sometimes more, so that he had to get quantities of 20 lbs. from the Kwong Wa shop. Since the summons was issued only small quantities were being purchased. His client did not sell the stuff, but in this instance only sold a small quantity. His jeweller was not a habitual trader in acids. He asked his Worship to take a lenient view of the case and not to impose a very nominal fine. All goldsmiths were labouring under a similar ignorance engendered by long practice. The publicity that would be given to the case would bring the necessity of having a licence home to the goldsmiths.

Inspector Terrett said that he seized the stuff under the Dangerous Goods Act; it consisted of four jars and four bottles. Seven of the eight either contained chlorine, sulphuric or nitric acid. Even if the defendant had a licence, he would still have to prosecute him for faulty storage. Sulphuric acid was dangerous. The danger of fire was not great unless the acid came into contact with something else. Mr. Wood fined the defendant \$10 for selling and \$20 for the storage of the stuff, which was ordered to be confiscated.

Ways of Settling Debts.

There are many ways of settling a debt. The calm man says: "My Lord, I shall be highly grateful to you if you pay me the \$20 you borrowed from me last time. My wife and children are feeling the cold and I have no money with which to buy their winter garments." The independent man says: "I have not as yet refunded the loan. An early compliance will oblige." The man with the Cain-like temperament does not waste words. This is how he realises his money: "You have money on you and you can pay me immediately. You have the alternative of preserving your head or your money." One Chinese, who had to get \$6 from another Chinese, met the latter in Jubilee Street, and he used this method of demand: "I proved unavailing and the result was the debtor paid the loan in form of a bleeding face. For taking the law into his hands he was fined \$10 by Mr. Wood and was cautioned that the next time he did this sort of thing he will have to be sent to goal."

The Dialect Tangle.

The different dialects of China can exhaust the resources of our Law and Police Courts. An instance in support of this occurred this morning at the Magistracy, when a Chinese storekeeper on board an Asiatic Petroleum Company's vessel was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood with the larceny of a quantity of rope. The man spoke a peculiar dialect and there was no one

FALL FROM HOUSE-TOP.

Dies in Hospital.

At five o'clock this morning, thieves broke into a private house, through the roof, in Des Voeux Road, almost opposite the Wing On Company. After collecting various articles, including jewellery and money, the robbers proceeded to escape by the way they came and whilst doing this, one of the men fell from the roof to the pavement, a distance of about 100 feet, with all the booty on his person. He was taken to the Government Civil Hospital in a critical condition, and died this afternoon.

BASEBALL.

Happy Valley Baseball Club v. the Nippon Club.

The following will represent the Happy Valley Baseball Club in a baseball match against the Nippon Club on Sunday, the 22nd inst., at Happy Valley, commencing 3 p.m. sharp:—Mr. C. A. Goldenberg, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Smith, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Riche, Mr. Pachito Tovar, Mr. U. M. Omar, Mr. B. M. Omar, Mr. A. S. Hamid.

Smokes for French Soldiers.

In response to an appeal to the American Consul from Hanoi for Christmas Cheer for 300 French invalided soldiers recently arrived from the seat of war, Mrs. J. H. Taggart has been instrumental in collecting and despatching 10,000 cigarettes for the use of these troops during Christmas-tide. The donors of the cigarettes are as follows:—Osanton and Nanyang Bros. Tobacco Co., 1,000; Mr. Baring, 3,000; Mr. Settle, 2,000; Mrs. Thomson, 1,000; and Mrs. J. H. Taggart, 3,000. The French Consul in Haiphong has thanked Mrs. Taggart on behalf of his compatriots and feels sure that the gift will be very much appreciated.

Returned.
Mr. J. Scott Harrison returned to the Colony to-day from Australia.

Influenza in Kobe.

A report received from Kobe, yesterday, that the lower class Japanese residents are dying at the rate of about 300 a week, from the influenza scourge.

in the Court, who could interpret him. Fortunately the man spoke pidgin English.

Inspector Gordon related how a Police launch going in the direction of the ship saw a junk sailing away and when stopped a large quantity of rope was found. The three passengers in the junk said that they purchased it from the storekeeper and the Police took them on board the Asiatic steamer where the storekeeper denied the story. In the meantime the storekeeper requested to be allowed to go to the laboratory and going in the man attempted to jump out through the loophole but was seized just in the nick of time. The passengers said they paid \$50 for the rope, which was really worth \$200. They were charged with receiving stolen property.

Mr. O. W. Parks, the Chief Officer of the ship, said every night the defendant looked the doors of the storerooms and handed him the keys. This morning he found that one of the doors was tampered with. He identified the ropes as belonging to the steamer. As the vessel was sailing to-day Mr. Wood allowed the rope to be handed over to the ship and adjourned the case.

HONGKONG DEFENCE CORPS.

Administrative Orders by Major H. A. Morgan, Administrative Commandant, state:—

No. 238 Sapper C. Strifford, Engineer Company, is permitted to resign, on leaving the Colony, to date from day of departure.

Transfers.
No. 307 Pte. T. G. F. Fleming, No. 324 Pte. G. M. Lakia and No. 313, Pte. W. Ross are transferred from "A" Company to the Engineer Company, dated 17.12.18. No. 988 Pte. C. E. Holmes is transferred from "B" Company to the Engineer Company, dated 17th December, 1918.

Leave.
Pte. J. H. Brieter, M. Gun Company, is granted 9 weeks' leave, on business, from 23th December, 1918.

Annual Musketry Course.
The following is the result of firing of Annual Course by No. 7 Platoon, "B" Company:—

Number exercised	15
Marksmen	3
1st Class shots	9
2nd "	3
	15
The averages obtained were:—	
Practice No. 13	142
" " 14	243
" " 15	112
" " 16	231
" " 17	124
" " 18	117
" " 19	7
	1041

Issue of Orders.
The next issue of Corps Orders will be on 3rd January, 1919.

Orders for Artillery Company

by Captain J. H. W. Armstrong, V.D., state:—

Parades at Belcher's Battery:—

Tuesday, 24th December, 7.30 a.m. Eight Half Coy. New Layers' Class only.

Friday, 27th December—5.15 p.m. Left Half Coy. New Layers' Class only.

The following N.C.O.s and men of Left Half Company have passed the D.R. Examination held by the I.G.:—Sergeant MacPherson, Corporal Gerrard, Lieutenant Bomb. Tavish and Gunner Mackay.

Engineer Orders.

Orders for Engineer Company by Captain W. Russell state:—

Notice.

Pay and Travelling Expenses for November and December will be paid out on Monday and Tuesday, 23rd and 24th instant, between 10.30 a.m. and 12 noon at the Engineer Company's Office, H.K.D.O. Headquarters.

A Company dinner will be held on Saturday, January 11th, at the Hongkong Hotel at 8 p.m. All members of the Company wishing to be present will notify, as soon as possible, 2nd Lieut. Blackburn, from whom any information desired may be obtained. It is the wish of the Dinner Committee that every member should be present.

Infantry Orders.

Orders for Infantry Battalion by Major H. A. Morgan state:—

"B" COMPANY.

Sunday, 22nd December—8 a.m. No. 8 Platoon, at King's Park Range, Annual Musketry Course, Part 3, Practices 15, 16, 17 and 18. Dress, Drill order with pouches.

MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

Men as detailed by O.O. Company will parade at Kennedy Road Range as ordered to fire Part 1, M. Gun Course.

RECRUITS.

Monday, 23rd December—5.10 p.m. The following recruits will parade at Kennedy Road Range under Sergeant Edmonds:—Pte. W. V. Doherty, A. K. Mackintosh and A. G. S. Morton. Dress, Drill order without rifle.

Cavalry Company.

Orders for Cavalry Company by 2nd Lieut. J. W. Davis state:—

TO-DAY'S CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

Peking, Dec. 19.

Liang Shih-ye will not now attend the Senate. The affairs will be attended to by the acting Chairman.

Luk Wing-ting has wired a proposition for permanent peace, mainly favouring the separation of military and civil areas and outlining the inadvisability of Civil and Military Governors residing in the same place.

The President urges Sun Yat-sen and Sun Han-ye to proceed to Europe to render assistance at the Peace Conference.

Fung Kuo-chung arrived here yesterday.

Shanghai, Dec. 19.

The Government has definitely decided that Nanking shall be the place for the Conference and has telegraphed again to Shun Chun-han to give consideration to the decision.

It is reported that the Government will send out a circular telegram declaring that Nanking has been selected as the place for the Peace Conference and that it will not make any change, no matter how much opposition is forthcoming or from what quarter.

The Senate held a meeting yesterday afternoon. It first rejected Liang Shih-ye's resignation, and then approved Chin Nan-fan's Cabinet by 105 votes and of 109.

Hung Hsi-ling has written the Cabinet requesting it to stop the Government troops from making any further advance on Fokien and Shensi, and to consult the South to arrange an armistice pending later instructions so that peace negotiations may go ahead. The Cabinet has replied that it will do as requested.

The Cabinet has telegraphed the two Northern envoys in Canton urging the South to appoint delegates. It is reported that Tang Shao-ye has been appointed as chief delegate of the South.

Chin Nan-fan has asked Wu Chin-shu to go to Europe to assist Luk Ching-cheong in the peace negotiation, but in his reply Wu touched on the question of internal affairs in China now and said he had decided to abandon the idea.

Parade—Monday, 23rd December—5.15 p.m., the full Company will parade at Headquarters.

Notice.—Rifle Meeting.

Programme.—Owing to lack of time on the first day of the Meeting, 20th December, it has been found necessary to arrange for the Franco-Cop to be fired for on Sunday, 29th instant, commencing at 11 a.m.

Firing for the Commandant's Competition will commence on Thursday, 26th instant, at 6.30 a.m. sharp, and for the Blake-Shield about 2 p.m.

On Saturday, 28th instant, members of the Corps competing in the Open Rifle Event will require to commence shooting at 1 p.m. sharp.

Firing for the The Competition will commence about 3 p.m. On Sunday, 29th instant, firing for the Classification Competition will commence at 8 a.m. sharp. Teams for the Francis Cup should be ready to fire at 11 a.m. and firing for the Corps Championship Bowl will commence immediately after tiffin.

Corps Revolver Competition.—It has been decided to allow post entries for this event, to be made on the range.

Competitors are allowed only one entry.

Amunition.—Reference notice dated 18.12.18, amunition for individual competitors will not be obtainable at the Range, but amunition for team shoots may be obtained there.

DUTIABLE TOBACCO.

A Revenue Prosecution.

Before Mr. J. R. Wood, this afternoon, Wong Kat Tong, of the Man Lee shop, of 74, Praya East, was charged with being in possession of a quantity of dutiable Three Castles cigarettes and tobacco, without the permission of Mr. Tratman Superintendent of Imports and Exports.

Mr. Tratman, as complainant, stated that he would first direct His Worship's attention to Section 14, of the Tobacco Ordinance that in all proceedings tobacco is presumed to be dutiable, but the Ordinance must be very carefully handled. If it was always enforced, he and his friend would probably be liable to arrest at any time—(laughter)—but he hoped to show that the defendant was not only in possession of the tobacco but he was aware that he could give no proper explanation under the Section—and went further by endeavouring to make an explanation.

Mr. Tratman then went into the witness box and gave formal evidence that the defendant had no permission from himself to be in possession of the tobacco, which was dutiable.

Mr. M. K. Lo, on behalf of the defendant, said that in the course of his defence it would be necessary for him to get at the working of the British-American Tobacco Company, and he desired to ask Mr. Tratman, as complainant, whether or not any witnesses would be called so that he could cross-examine them on the point.

Mr. Tratman stated that two members of the firm in question would be called.

The case proceeding:

U. S. "Veterans" Return.

The liner Leviathan, which foiled five submarine attacks while taking troops to France, returned on Monday with nearly 9,000 veterans on board. The War Department announces the sailing from France of the transport Manchuria, Persia Maru, Carailo and Maruman with returning American troops.

American Japanese Negotiations.—Regarding the administration of a portion of the South Manchurian and the Usuri Railroads, the American and the Japanese Governments are still negotiating. It is understood that the American Government will yield many points and the Japanese will do the same.

TO-DAY'S SHARE QUOTATIONS.

S.—SELLERS; SA.—SALES;

B.—BUYERS; N.—NOMINAL.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

BANKS.

Marine Insurance Co. \$730

North China b. \$405

Yongtai b. \$117

Far Eastern b. \$950

China Fire b. \$205 Ex. 73

H. K. Fire b. \$26

SHIPPING.

Douglas b. \$89 sa. 88/8

Steamboats b. \$32

Indos (Pref.) b. \$30

Indos (Def.) b. \$156

Shells b. \$156

Ferries b. \$34

REFINERIES.

Sugars b. \$98

Malabons b. \$38

MINING.

Kailans b. 47/-

Langkats b. \$32

Raubs b. \$25

Trombs b. \$7/-

Urals b. \$36/-

DOCKS, WHARVES, GODOWNS, &C.

H. K. Wharves b. \$108/7

Kowloon Docks b. \$155 sa. 156/8

Shai Docks b. \$188

N. Engineering b. 20/-

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.

Centrais b. \$108

H. K. Hotels b. \$90

Land Invest. b. \$102

H. K. Est. b. \$740

K'loon Lands b. \$38

West Point b. \$72

COTTON MILLS.

Ewos b. \$85

Kung Yiks b. \$141/4

Lau Kung Mow b. \$154

Oriental b. \$57

Shai Cottons b. \$144

Yangtzeopos b. \$8,000 sa. 7.75

MISCELLANEOUS.

Green Islands b. \$8.85

Borries b. \$12

China Light & P. b. \$64

Providents b. \$8.00

Dairy Farms b. \$264

H. K. Electric b. \$844

Macao Electric b. \$56

Ropes b. \$34

Trams, Low Level b. \$7.80

Trams, Peak, old b. \$7.00

Trams, Peak, new b. \$7.70

Laundries b. \$1.50

Steel Foundries b. \$12

U. Waterboats b. \$124

Watsons b. \$5.85

Wm. Powells b. \$9.60

Wiseman's b. \$13

Hongkong, 20th December, 1918.

The New Year.

For the New Year the Anderson Music Co. has issued a very dainty little wall calendar bearing a pretty study of a girl's head.

FAIRALL & CO.

ARE SHOWING

Evening Dresses, Coats, Flowers, gloves, shoes, Furs, Bags, Dolls, Handkerchiefs.

and

Everything Suitable for

Xmas Gifts

This establishment will remain open until 5 p.m. on

SATURDAY 21st MONDAY 23rd TUESDAY 24th

IDEAL XMAS GIFTS:—

CIGARS.

GOLOFINA PERFECTOS

\$5.00 per box of 25

CIGARETTES.

COMMANDER VIRGINIA

\$1.00 per tin of 50

TOBACCO.

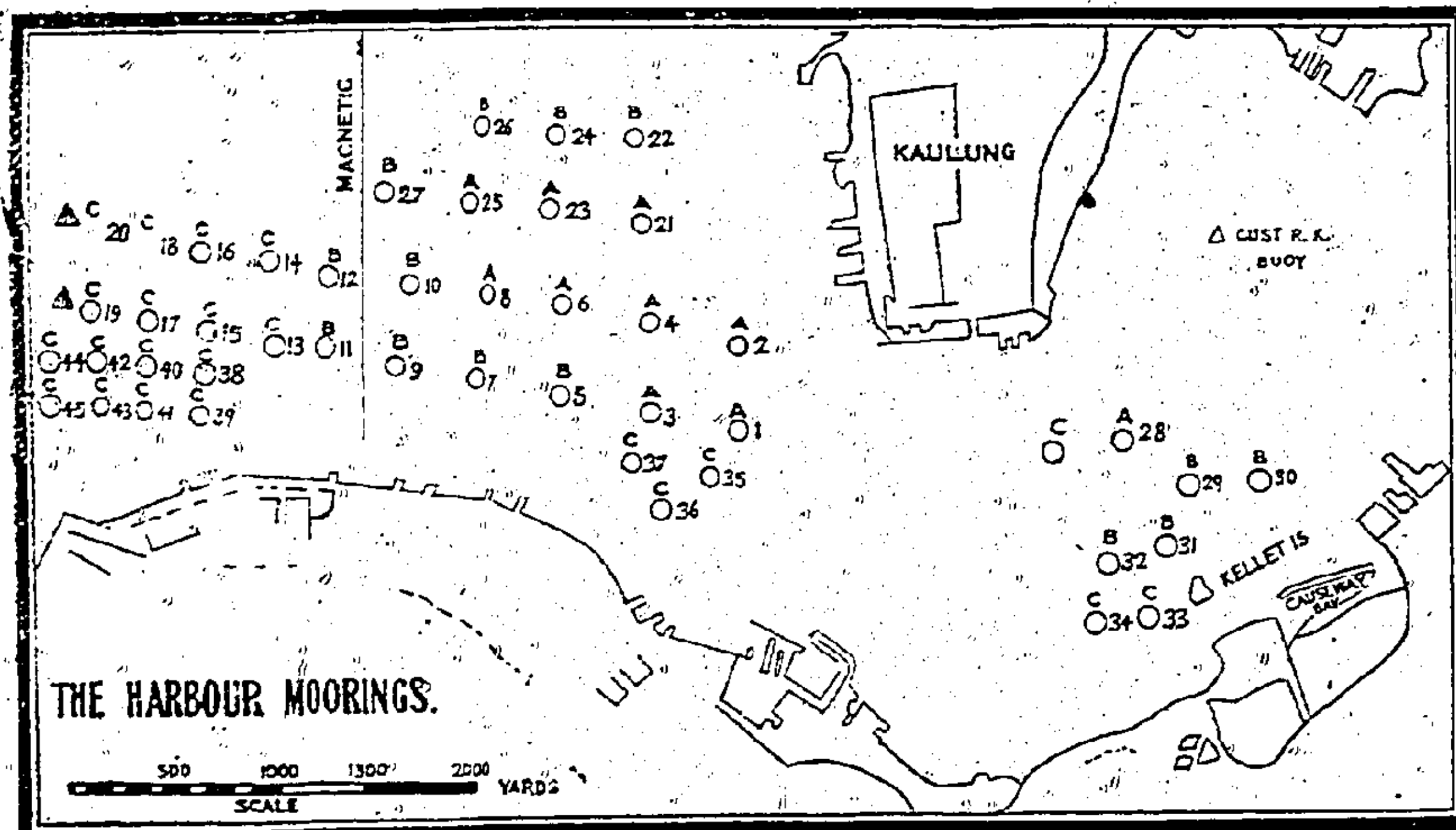
GARRICK MIXTURE

\$1.60 per 1/4 lb. tin

Obtainable at all Tobacconists.

This advertisement is issued by Reich's-American Tobacco Co., Ltd.

SHIPPING.



VESSELS ARRIVED.

December 20.
Billion, 3772, Dutch, Capt. Meuwert, Trin W. T. C. J. Lina. Mooring—B 29.
Key West, 3014, Norw. Capt. Jorgensen, Shanghai, C. P. O. S.—Mooring—E. Wharf.
Helios, 860, Norw. Capt. Olsen, Saigon, Thorenson—Mooring—B 2.
Tai Wan Maru, 1567, Jap. Capt. Hasei, Singapore, Ming Joo Tze—Mooring—B 10.
Nissin Maru, 681, Jap. Capt. Kato, Keelung, Fukukawa—Mooring—B 31.
Seiwa Maru, 356 Jap. Capt. Nakamura, Tokyo, Sawama—Mooring—B 11.
Nam, Kam, 680, Chin. Capt. Laves, Haiphong, We Fat Co.—Mooring—C 34.
Fasting, 1307, British, Capt. Purvis, Swatow, B. & S.—Mooring—B 12.
Kango, 161, Chin. Capt. Fernandez, Haiphong, Chinese—Mooring—C 43.
Nikko Maru, 3076, Jap. Capt. Shinomiya, Manila, N. Y. K.—Mooring—K. Wharf.

VESSELS CLEARED.

Ships cleared for Keelung, Genf. Look f. Singapore, Yuenping for Manila, Yafuori Maru for Yokohama, Kato for Canton.

POST OFFICE.

The mail dispatched from London to Hongkong via Suez on 11th Sep. 1918 was lost at sea through enemy action. It consisted of one bag only containing ordinary correspondence and 15 Registered articles marked "via Suez".

In the case of Mails closing before 9 a.m. Registration closes at 5 o'clock on the previous evening.

OUTWARD MAILS.

TO-MORROW.

SATURDAY, 21st December.

Japan via Nagasaki—Per NIKKOMARU 21st Dec. 5 p.m.

Haiphong—Per PHEUMPENH, 21st Dec. 11 a.m.

Amoy & Straits—Per TAIWAN MARU, 21st Dec. 1 p.m.

Saigon—Per BAN YEK, 21st Dec. 3 p.m.

SUNDAY, 22nd December.

Swatow, Amoy and Formosa via Keelung—Per AMAKUSA M., 22nd Dec. 9 a.m.

Swatow and Banskot—Per DEUFAR, 22nd Dec. 9 a.m.

Swatow, Shanghai & No. 10 China—Per PAOTING, 22nd Dec. 9 a.m.

MONDAY, 23rd December.

Haiphong—Per TUN-SHING, 23rd Dec. 5 p.m.

Shanghai & N. China—Per WINGSHANG, 23rd Dec. 5 p.m.

Swatow, Ningpo, Shanghai & N. C.—Per TAIKANG, 23rd Dec. 5 p.m.

Haiphong—Per CORNELIA, 23rd Dec. 5 p.m.

TUESDAY, 24th December.

Shanghai & N. China—Per SINGAN, 24th Dec. 10 a.m.

Formosa via Keelung, Shanghai and N. China, Japan via Moji, Canada, U. States, Central and S. America & Europe via Vancouver—Per MONTEAGLE, 24th Dec. Reg. 9.45 a.m. Letters 10.30 a.m.

Swatow and Amoy—Per HAIHONG, 24th Dec. 1 p.m.

Philippine Is., Shanghai, N. China, Japan via Nagasaki, Canada, United States, Central and South America, and Europe via Canada—Per KASHIMA M., 24th Dec. Reg. 5 p.m. Letters 5 p.m.

THURSDAY, 26th December.

Shanghai & N. China—Per SUNNING, 26th Dec. 11 a.m.

Philippine Is., Japan via Moji, Canada, United States, Central and South America, and Europe via Canada—Per MEXICO M., 26th Dec. Reg. 11.15 a.m. Letters noon.

FRIDAY, 27th December.

Swatow, Amoy and Fookchow—Per HAITAN, 27th Dec. 1 p.m.

Philippine Is.—Per LOONSHANG, 27th Dec. 3 p.m.

SATURDAY, 28th December.

Shanghai & N. China—Per YINGGOW, 28th Dec. 3 p.m.

GEO. P. LAMMERT.

AUCTIONEER, APPRAISER AND SURVEYOR.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

FRIDAY the 27th December, 1918,

commencing at 12 o'clock (Noon) at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street.

The Wreck of the

s.s. "SUNCKIANG"

as she now lies sunk off the West side of East Lamma Island. The wreck lies in 10/12 fathoms of water and is believed to be damaged under the engine room and aft.

Terms:—Cash on fall of hammer when steamer will be at purchaser's risk.

GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

NOTICES.

NOTICE.

ANOTHER BLOCK OF HOUSES FOR A HOUSING SCHEME.

THE Undersigned, having acquired the whole of the houses in Granville Terrace, Kowloon, are prepared to make arrangements with any person desirous of owning any of these four-roomed houses by purchasing on the instalment system, preference to the given to the present tenants.

J. M. ALVES & CO.

Hongkong, 7th December, 1918.

HONGKONG STEEL FOUNDRY COMPANY LIMITED.

AN INTERIM DIVIDEND OF ONE DOLLAR (\$1.00) per share for account 1918/9 will be payable on SATURDAY, the 28th December, 1918. Shareholders are requested to apply for Dividend Warrants at the Company's Office, St. George's Buildings, Hongkong.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from MONDAY, the 23rd December 1918 to SATURDAY, 28th December, 1918, both days inclusive.

GORDON & CO.,

General Managers, Hongkong, 14th December, 1918.

G. R.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OFFICE.

THIS Department will be entirely CLOSED on Xmas and New Year days. It will be open for all purposes from 9 a.m. till NOON on the 26th December and 2nd January.

(Sd.) D. W. TRATMAN,

Superintendent,

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS,

Hongkong, 16th December, 1918.

THE CHINA LIGHT & POWER CO., LTD.

THE Register of shareholders will be CLOSED from the 23rd day of December 1918 to the 31st day of December 1918, both days inclusive.

The rights to shares in the new company will accrue to the shareholders who are on the Register on the 30th day of December 1918.

All intending transfers should be sent in on or before the 21st December 1918.

SHEWAN TOMES & CO.,

General Managers, Hongkong, 16th December, 1918.

MESSAGE HALL

4 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL (DUDDILL STREET).

MR. T. TAKAYE.

MRS. MORITA.

CERTIFICATED MASSAGEURS

Residence: 12, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon.

NOTICE.

ASAHI BEER.



Mitsui Bussan Kaisha

Telephone 336 & 124.

WEATHER REPORT.

December 20d. 12h. 16m.—No returns from Japan and V. advices. An anticyclone has developed over N. China, and pressure has increased considerably in that region, and slightly elsewhere. The monsoon will freshen along the China coast, and over the N. China Sea.

Hongkong Rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.00 inch. Total since January 1st 101.58 inches against an average of 82.70 inches.

FORECAST FOR THE 24 HOURS ENDING AT NOON TO-MORROW.

District	Forecast
1 Hongkong to Gap Road	N.E. winds, fresh; fair.
2 Formosa Channel	N. winds, fresh to strong.
3 South coast of China bet. the same two points H.K. and Lamma Is.	The same as No. 1.
4 South coast of China bet. the same two points H.K. and Hainan Is.	The same as No. 1.
C. W. JEFFRIES, Chief Assistant, Hongkong Observatory, Dec. 20, 1918.	

METEOROLOGICAL.

Previous Day	On date	On date.
Barometer	30.04	30.07 30.02
Temperature	75	71 77
Humidity	75	85 69
Wind Direction	E. E.S.E. E.	
Force	2 2 2	
Weather	0 0 0	
Rain	0.00 0.00 0.00	
Lightest wind at Temperature at the 10th 75		
Lightest	12 70	
H.K. Observatory, Dec. 20, 1918.		

T. F. CLAXTON, Director.

TIDE TABLE.

From 16th Dec. to 22nd Dec.

Day	Time	High Water	Low Water
Mon. 16	11.15	5.1	2.1
Tues. 17	11.15	5.1	2.1
Wed. 18	11.15	5.1	2.1
Thurs. 19	11.15	5.1	2.1
Fri. 20	11.15	5.1	2.1
Sat. 21	11.15	5.1	2.1
Sun. 22	11.15	5.1	2.1

at morning, & afternoon.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

Foraging for Breakfast



"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK"

WILLIAM FOX PRODUCTION

Blunderbore, the Giant, is successful on his hunt in the land where the little people dwell.

VICTORIA THEATRE.

DECEMBER, 19th, 20th 21st and 22nd.

9.15 P.M. PERFORMANCE.

"THE HOUSE OF HATE"

EPISODES 13 & 14.

American Gazette No. 17.

ETC., ETC., ETC.

Watch for announcement in respect of programmes and attractions for Xmas Week.

Booking at ANDERSON'S.

NOTICE.

WISEMAN LIMITED

A large assortment of delicious

CHOCOLATES

have arrived in perfect condition.

also

TOM SMITHS CRACKERS,

TABLE DECORATIONS

and

SANTA CLAUS STOCKINGS,

CREAM CARAMELS,

TURKISH DELIGHT,

BUTTER SCOTCH,

RUSSIAN TOFFEE

all new goods.

Telephone 407

D. M. GOODALL,

Manager.

Printed and Published for the Proprietor, by Charles Maurice Wilson, at 11, Lee House Street, in the City of Victoria, Hongkong.